

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
18 April 2002 (18.04.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/32098 A2

(51) International Patent Classification: H04M 11/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB01/01748

(22) International Filing Date:
24 September 2001 (24.09.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09/688,287 13 October 2000 (13.10.2000) US

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

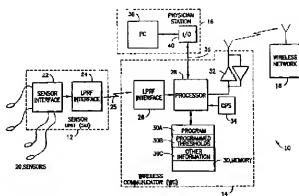
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SI, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD HAVING AN EMERGENCY LOCATION AND VITAL SIGN MONITOR



(57) Abstract: A method for operating a wireless communication system has steps of operating a set of vital signs sensors that are affixed to a user; transmitting sensor-generated information to a wireless communicator such as a cellular/PCS telephone; comparing, in the wireless communicator, the sensor-generated information to a set of thresholds stored in or accessible by the wireless communicator and, upon an occurrence of sensor-generated information falling outside of a threshold, initiating an emergency call from the wireless communicator to an emergency response center. The emergency call includes at least some of the sensor-generated information and information describing a current location of the wireless communicator. The emergency call can further include other information that is descriptive of a medical condition of the user, such as the user's medical history and medications that are taken by the user. The other information can also be provided for use by the emergency services personnel, along with updated sensor-generated information that continues to be transmitted from the wireless communicator while the emergency services personnel are en route to the user. A physician's station can be provided for downloading the set of thresholds and the optional other information into a memory that is accessible by the wireless communicator.